

Serial No. 09/841,007
Amdt. Dated April 12, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 14, 2005

Docket No. P-0220

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the Abstract, specification and claims 1-23 are amended, and claims 24-33 are added. The Abstract and specification are amended for clarification purposes only. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims and the drawings. Withdrawal of the rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Informalities

The Office Action objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(p)(5) indicating that reference characters S34 (Figure 3A) and S51 (Figure 4) are not mentioned in the specification. The amendments to pages 8 and 11 of the specification are responsive to the Examiner's comments, and thus the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

The Office Action objects to the specification due to an informality. The amendment made to page 7 of the specification is responsive to the Examiner's comments, and thus the objection to the specification should be withdrawn.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as

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indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The amendments made to claims 1 and 6 are responsive to the Examiner's comments, and thus it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 6 meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph should be withdrawn.

III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,510,557 to Thrift in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,161,082 to Goldberg et al. (hereinafter "Goldberg"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites a control unit configured to receive character information in a first language, to send the character information to a translation site through a network interface if it is determined that the first language does not correspond to a selected language, and to receive the translated language character information, and a video processing unit configured to receive the translated character information and to display the translated character information on a screen. Thrift neither discloses nor suggests such features.

Thrift discloses a JAVA television receiver (JTVR) 10 which allows a viewer to view information provided from the Internet on a first portion of a television 40 screen and a broadcast program on a second portion of the television 40 screen. The JTVR 10 includes a

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Java television platform (JTV) 12 with a bidirectional connection 14 to the Internet, a tuner/decoder 24 which receives a television input from a source 26 (cable, satellite, VCR, laser disk, and the like), and a vertical blanking interface (VBI) datacast decoder 28 which receives a signal from the tuner/decoder 24 and provides outputs to the JTV 12. The tuner/decoder 24 receives a television signal, decodes it, and then outputs the signal to the VBI decoder 28 and an audio/video overlay 32. The VBI decoder 28 removes information from a video blanking interval (closed captioning, teletext, and the like) and sends it to the JTV 12.

The JTV 12 also receives channel map information from the tuner/decoder 24 which associates a given channel with a URL, allowing the JTV 12 to access the web page via the Internet connection 14. The audio/video overlay 34 can then combine the web page, VBI information, and the television channel signal and output this combination to the television 40. The information is typically displayed on a split screen, with an upper portion displaying the television broadcast 72, and a lower portion displaying the web page 70 as shown in Figure 3 of Thrift. Thrift does not disclose or suggest that the television 40 is configured to receive character information, determine if the first language corresponds to a selected language, and receive translated character information. Further, although signals are combined by the audio/video overlay 34 for display, the function of the web page 70 and what is displayed on the lower portion of the screen is controlled based on a user's demand, and the television broadcast signal 72 displayed on the upper portion of the screen independent from whatever the user

chooses to display on the lower portion of the screen once the URL is displayed.

Further, Goldberg fails to overcome the deficiencies of Thrift. Goldberg discloses a language translation system which allows a plurality of user communication devices 100, 110, and 120 to each send a communication in the individual sender's language, and to receive a communication which has been translated into the individual recipient's language prior to delivery. Users 100, 110, 120 are connected by a network 150 which includes known language translation software 160 and a database 170 storing a library of translated sentences used to produce more grammatically correct sentence structure than a straight software based translation.

If, for example, a sender at device 100 sends a message in English to a recipient at device 110 whose native language is Spanish, the message is received by the network 150 in English, translated into Spanish by the language translation software 160, and then transmitted to the recipient at device 110 in Spanish. The terminal devices 100, 110, 120 simply transmit and receive messages in a given language, while the network 150, which is separate from but connected to the devices 100, 110, 120 discriminates between sending and receiving languages and conducts the translations. Once the network has determined a translation must be done, the translation is performed by the software 160 and database 170 components of the network. Neither the users nor the devices 100, 110, 120 determine a need for a translation, nor do they contact a translation site through a network interface. Rather, all the receiving of messages,

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determining a need for translation, and sending the translated message is completed within the confines of the network 150. Accordingly, Goldberg does not disclose or suggest a control unit nor a video processing unit as recited in independent claim 1, and thus fails to overcome the deficiencies of Thrift.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is allowable over the applied combination, and thus the rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Thrift and Goldberg should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2-11, as well as newly added claims 24-26 and 32, are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

Independent claims 12 recites a storing unit configured to store contact information for at least one translation site which corresponds to a plurality of languages and an operation program related to translation, and a control unit configured to contact a translation site corresponding to a selected language based on the contact information stored in the storing unit, and to transmit character information to be translated in accordance with the operation program stored in the storing unit. As set forth above, Thrift neither discloses nor suggests such features. Further, as set forth above, Goldberg fails to overcome the deficiencies of Thrift. More specifically, Goldberg discloses that each user 100, 110, 120 makes contact with a single, established network 150, and the network 150 utilizes the standard translation software 160 and database 170 to conduct a necessary translation. Goldberg does not disclose or suggest that

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contact information for translation sites is stored and accessed for translation of characters transmitted to the translation site based on an operation program stored in the storing unit.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 12 is allowable over the applied combination, and thus the rejection of independent claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Thrift and Goldberg should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 13-17 are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 12, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

Independent claim 18 recites receiving character information in a first language and contracting an appropriate translation site through a network interface if it is determined that the character information does not correspond to a selected language, and displaying the translated character information on a screen. As set forth above, Thrift neither discloses nor suggests such features. Further, as set forth above, Goldberg fails to overcome the deficiencies of Thrift. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 18 is allowable over the applied combination, and thus the rejection of independent claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Thrift and Goldberg should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 19-22, as well as newly added claims 27-30 and 33, are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 18, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

Independent claim 23 recites displaying the translated character information on a screen substantially in synch with corresponding audio information. As set forth above, Thrift neither

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discloses nor suggests such features. More specifically, the web page 70 is displayed and controlled independent of the broadcast 72 displayed on the television. Thus, Thrift neither discloses nor suggests any synchronization of signals. Further, as set forth above, Goldberg fails to overcome the deficiencies of Thrift. More specifically, the sending, receiving, translating, and re-sending functions disclosed by Thrift are done serially, and Thrift likewise neither discloses nor suggests any synchronization. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 23 is allowable over the applied combination, and thus the rejection of independent claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Thrift and Goldberg should be withdrawn.

IV. Conclusion

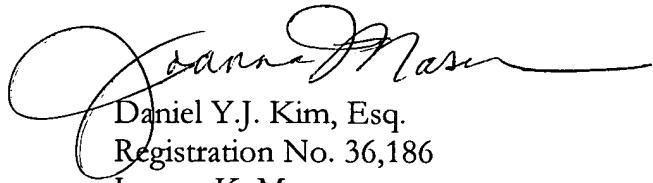
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, Joanna K. Mason, at the telephone number listed below. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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